PhD in History

Admission Requirements
Applicants are considered on an individual basis. In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, applicants must meet the following program requirements:

- **Baccalaureate Field** Applicants must have either an undergraduate major in history or a minimum of 16 semester hours in history.
- **Grade Point Average** At least 3.00/4.00 for the final 60 semester hours (90 quarter hours) of undergraduate study. A GPA of 3.50/4.00 is recommended.
- **Tests Required** GRE General. A verbal score of 156 is the minimum recommended.
- **Minimum English Competency Test Score**
  - TOEFL 80, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Speaking 20, and Writing 21 (iBT Internet-based); 60, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Writing 21 (New Paper-Based—after August 2018); 550 (Institutional Testing Paper-Based—prior to August 2018), OR,
  - IELTS 6.5, with subscores of 6.0 for all four subscores, OR,
  - PTE-Academic 54, with subscores of Reading 51, Listening 47, Speaking 53, and Writing 56.
- **Letters of Recommendation** Three required, from former professors for the MA, MAT, and PhD, preferably from former professors.
- **Personal Statement** Required.
- **Writing Sample** Required.
- **Other Requirements for Applicants to the MA (Doctoral Track) and the PhD in History** If they wish to enroll in a departmental concentration (WRGUIW or Encounters), which is recommended, applicants should indicate in their required personal statement which concentration (WRGUIW or Encounters) they wish to study. Application instructions (http://hist.uic.edu/history/programs/graduate/applying) are available on the Department of History website.

Degree Requirements
In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, students must meet the following program requirements:

- **Minimum Semester Hours Required** 96 from the baccalaureate.
- **Course Work** Candidates must complete at least 64 semester hours of graduate work beyond the master’s degree exclusive of HIST 501. Of this amount, 16 are in didactic courses, and 48 are in thesis research. Eight hours of didactic course work are in HIST 591 to be taken after all other requirements for didactic course work have been met. Credit toward the degree is not given for any course in which the student receives a grade of less than B. All entering graduate students are required to take HIST 501. See the History Department website, Graduate Study in History at UIC (http://hist.uic.edu) for further details. PhD students are not required to repeat any specific course offered by this department that they have successfully completed as MA students. Students entering the PhD program with a master’s degree from a department in another discipline may be required to complete additional hours of didactic course work, as appropriate and specified upon admission.
- **PhD Concentration in the History of Work, Race, and Gender in the Urban World (WRGUIW)**: The WRGUIW Concentration offers students a foundation in labor, immigration, and history of capitalism; race and African American history; and/or gender, women’s and gay and lesbian history. Framed around a modern U.S. history core, the program nevertheless encourages a transnational perspective on its core themes. Moreover, of the three required minor fields for students concentrating in WRGUIW, two will address non-U.S. or comparative topics. In addition to their department-based course requirements, students concentrating in WRGUIW entering with a BA must satisfactorily complete four WRGUIW-themed courses (HIST 593, 16 hours), while those entering with an MA must complete three such courses (12 hours). Participation in the WRGUIW Concentration involves no increase in the total credit hours needed to graduate. Students work closely with their advisors in designing their program of study. Completion of all requirements for the PhD is necessary to graduate with a Concentration in WRGUIW.
- **PhD Concentration in the History of Encounters, Ethnographies, and Empires (Encounters)**: The Encounters Concentration draws upon the expertise of faculty with regional specializations in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe, and the United States. The concentration offers students specializing in any one of these areas the opportunity for comparative study and research on topics related to encounters between different peoples, cultures, and continents. Framed around a core in world and European history, with attention to both the early modern and modern eras, Encounters is designed to help students in the concentration become conversant with issues that cut across regional specializations. In addition to their department-based course requirements, Encounters students entering with a BA must satisfactorily complete four Encounters courses (HIST 594, 16 hours), while those entering with an MA must complete three such courses (12 hours). For students concentrating in Encounters, of the minor fields required of PhD students, one will be world history, and students concentrating in Encounters must take a graduate course in world history. Participation in the Encounters Concentration involves no increase in the total credit hours needed to graduate. Students work closely with their advisors in designing their program of study. Completion of all requirements for the PhD is necessary to graduate with a Concentration in Encounters.

- **Examinations**
  - Comprehensive Examination: None.
  - Preliminary Examination: Required; written.
  - Dissertation Prospectus Required; written and oral.
  - Dissertation Required.
- **Other Requirements** Students must pass a reading examination in one foreign language relevant to the plan of study. Any additional foreign language requirement will be determined by student’s advisor.

Interdepartmental Concentrations
Students earning a graduate degree in this department may complement their courses by enrolling in select concentrations after consulting with their graduate advisor. Interdepartmental concentrations available for this degree include:

- **Black Studies** (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/liberal-arts-sciences/black-studies-conc)
- **Central and Eastern European Studies** (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/liberal-arts-sciences/cees-conc)
- **Gender and Women’s Studies** (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/liberal-arts-sciences/gws-conc)
- **Latin American and Latino Studies** (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/liberal-arts-sciences/lals)
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- Museum and Exhibition Studies (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/architecture-design-arts/muse-conc)